

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 226177  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NAS-01 CU-04 OES-07 /025 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:AKRAUSE:DKM  
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:SMCCALL  
NAS:GSHER  
CU/EE:YRICHMOND (INFO)  
-----050936 210541Z /16  
P 210009Z SEP 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: NAS EXCHANGE MELVYN NATHANSON

REF: A). MOSCOW 13489, B). 12834

1. CONCERNING VARES' ALLEGATION THAT USG ONCE REFUSED A VISA TO A SOVIET SCHOLAR AFTER ACCEPTANCE BY IREX, NEITHER WE NOR IREX KNOW OF ANY SUCH CASE. IN 1975, SOVIETS REFUSED A VISA TO RICHARD WORTMAN, ACLS HISTORY SCHOLAR WHOM SOVIET ACADEMY HAD ACCEPTED. AT THE SAME TIME, IREX WAS UNABLE TO PLACE SOVIET APPLICANT IVAN KRASNOV FOR ACADEMIC REASONS AND DUE TO LACK OF RECEPTIVITY BY AMERICAN HOSTS. SOVIETS, PERHAPS AFFRONTED BY KRASNOV REJECTION, SERIOUSLY DELAYED PLACEMENT OF TWO MORE ACLS SCHOLARS, AT WHICH IREX SUSPENDED EXCHANGES FOR TWO MONTHS UNTIL ISSUE WAS SORTED OUT. AS FOR PARALLELS WITH NATHANSON, WORTMAN CASE WAS SIMILAR BUT KRASNOV DIFFERED IN THAT IREX NEVER APPROVED HIS VISIT.

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HOWEVER, IREX EXPERIENCE - GOOD OR BAD - DOES NOT MITIGATE NAS OUTRAGE OVER SHABBY TREATMENT OF NATHANSON UNPRECEDENTED IN INTER-ACADEMY PROGRAM.

2. NAS IS GRATEFUL FOR SCICOUNS' EFFORTS WITH SOVIET ACADEMY FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIVISION AND CONSIDERS EVASIVE

RESPONSE REPORTED REFTEL INDICATIVE OF WHAT WE CAN EXPECT FROM KULAKOV AT PRESENT TIME. THEREFORE, NAS IS PREPARING TELEX MESSAGE FROM HANDLER TO ALEXANDROV WHICH WILL REFER TO NATHANSON'S HARDSHIP AND CITE DIFFICULTY OF ADMINISTERING A PROGRAM IN WHICH HOST ORGANIZATION'S ACCEPTANCE DOES NOT ASSURE APPLICANT OF ADMISSION TO THE COUNTRY. WITHOUT MAKING SPECIFIC THREATS OF RETALIATION (WHICH NAS STAFF DOES NOT RULE OUT), MESSAGE WILL STRESS THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH NAS VIEWS THIS PROBLEM. TEXT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.

3. EMBASSY MAY AT ITS DISCRETION WISH TO DISCUSS NATHANSON CASE FURTHER WITH MFA. TALKING POINTS WHICH EMBASSY PROPOSED REF B SEEM COMPLETELY APPROPRIATE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VISAS, SCIENTIFIC VISITS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE226177  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** AKRAUSE:DKM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** OEXC, PFOR, CVIS, UR, US, (NATHANSON, MELVYN)  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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